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Oswald's Links To US Agency Get Wider Attention

By GEORGE MORRIS

AFTER MORE than two months of silence on the mounting evidence that Lee Harvey Oswald was connected with a U.S. undercover agency, the FBI according to the New York Times, has denied that the man charged with killing President Kennedy was on its payroll.

The denial did not come from the FBI officially, but in a dispatch to the Sunday Jan. 26 Times from Dallas in which Jack Langguth, the correspondent who has been on the story takes two columns to answer "12 perplexing questions" about the assassination.

Question No. 1: "Has Oswald served at some period as a paid informer for the Federal Bureau of Investigation?" Langguth replies:

"A spokesman for that agency denied today that Oswald was at any time employed by the Bureau in that capacity."

Langguth noted that "newspaper and magazine articles have speculated that Oswald was in the service of the FBI, infiltrating leftist organizations at its request."

Langguth's 12 questions and answers read like an FBI press release, with the FBI report on the assassination barred from release to the public until the Warren Commission which has it, decides to do so, Bureau "spokesmen" have been feeding dope stories to newsmen that Lee Oswald alone was the killer, and had no relation to Jack Ruby who killed Oswald.

Much of the Langguth piece is a rehash of the material already leaked by the FBI and Dallas

police — material that has not, as Langguth concedes, proved "satisfactory public answers," and, we might add, they have in fact provoked new questions, suspicion and distrust.

Langguth does not tell who the FBI "spokesman" was.

Was it J. Edgar Hoover, someone in the Washington office, or some local official in Dallas who doesn't think Oswald was on the FBI payroll?

The FBI's tight secret machinery is such that only the topmost authority in it could positively verify if Oswald, under his or another name, was or had been in its service.

It may be true that technically he was NOT on the FBI payroll. The charge in the newspapers and magazines that the New York Times refers to, including one Times dispatch out of Dallas, suggested that Oswald may have been with the FBI, the Central Intelligence Agency, the "State Department" (as a Times story suggested) or with one of the reactionary Cuban emigre groups with which Oswald made contact.

The Warren Commission has asked all U.S. departments to check their files for any connection with Oswald. Perhaps — and it is a big perhaps — the Warren probe will enlighten the people on that score.

But Richard Starnes, the columnist, writing in the World-Telegram, Dec. 3, under title "Truth Won't Out," said that he did not recall, in his years of experience as a reporter, any instance when a government agency would reveal any information against itself.

"Will the presence on the panel (Warren Commission) of Allen Dulles, erstwhile headmaster of the Central Intelligence Agency, assure us that the truth of Oswald's sojourn in the Soviet Union will ever be known?" asked Starnes.

"The Russians suggest they suspected him of being a spy. Can any realistic person believe any tentacle of the nation's elephantine espionage apparatus will own up to ever having Oswald on its payroll?"

"It's not in the nature of bureaucracies to destroy their carefully nurtured fables of omniscience. It would be well to bear in mind, and to remem-

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